tinctions which exist, but which are often wholly overlooked by the uneducated and unobservant. It is not, however, necessary that the student should at the outset attempt to tax his memory with all of the long scientific names which he encounters in this and similar books. The late Dr. Horn of Philadelphia, who was justly regarded, during the latter years of his life, as the most eminent student of the *Coleoptera,* or beetles, of North America, once said to the writer that he made it a religious duty not to try to remember all the long scientific names belonging to the thousands of species in his collection, but was content to have them attached to the pins holding the specimens in his cabinets, where he could easily refer to them. The student who is engaged in collectingand studying butterflies will very soon come, almost without effort, to know their names, but it is not a sin to forget them.

In writing about butterflies it is quite customary to abbreviate the generic name by giving merely its initial. Thus in writing about the milkweed butterfly, *Anosia plexippus,* the naturalist will designate it as "*A. plexippus*" To the specific name he will also attach the name of the man who gave this specific name to the insect. As Linnaeus was the first to name this insect, it is proper to add his name, when writing of it, or to add an abbreviation of his name, as follows: "*A. plexippus,* Linnaeus," or "Linn/[1] In speaking about butterflies it is quite common to omit the generic name altogether and to use only the specific name. Thus after returning in the evening from a collecting-trip, I might say, "I was quite successful to-day. I took twenty *Aphrodites,* four *Myrinas,* and two specimens of *Atlantis.*" In this case there could be no misunderstanding of my meaning. I took specimens of three species of the genus *Argynnis—A. aphrodite, A. myrina,* and *A. atlantis;* but it is quite enough

to designate them by the specific names, without reference to their generic classification.

Synonyms.—*It is a law among scientific men that the name first given to an animal or plant shall be its name and shall have priority over all other names. Now, it has happened not infrequently that an author, not knowing that a species has been described already, has redescribed it under another name. Such a name applied a second time to a species already described is called a synonym,* and may be published after the true name. Sometimes species have had a dozen or more different names